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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
INFORMATION BRANCH  
30 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

In cooperation with the  
Federal-State Market News Service

WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 1, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29--- A continued trend of more plentiful supplies again was felt in the San Francisco wholesale vegetable market this week. Best Buys include carrots, celery, cauliflower, onions and spinach.

Irish potatoes remain a fairly good buy.

Fair buys include asparagus, broccoli, eggplant, mushrooms and rhubarb (local supplies coming in).

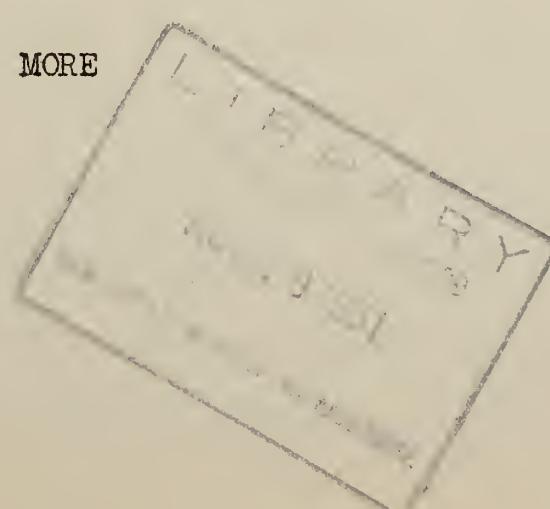
In the fruit division, Santa Cruz County Newtown apples again are the best fruit buy.

Avocados (lower) and grapefruit are the week's Fair Buys.

Pears are a little higher.

Lemons and oranges remain high, and Northwestern apples are in lighter supply.

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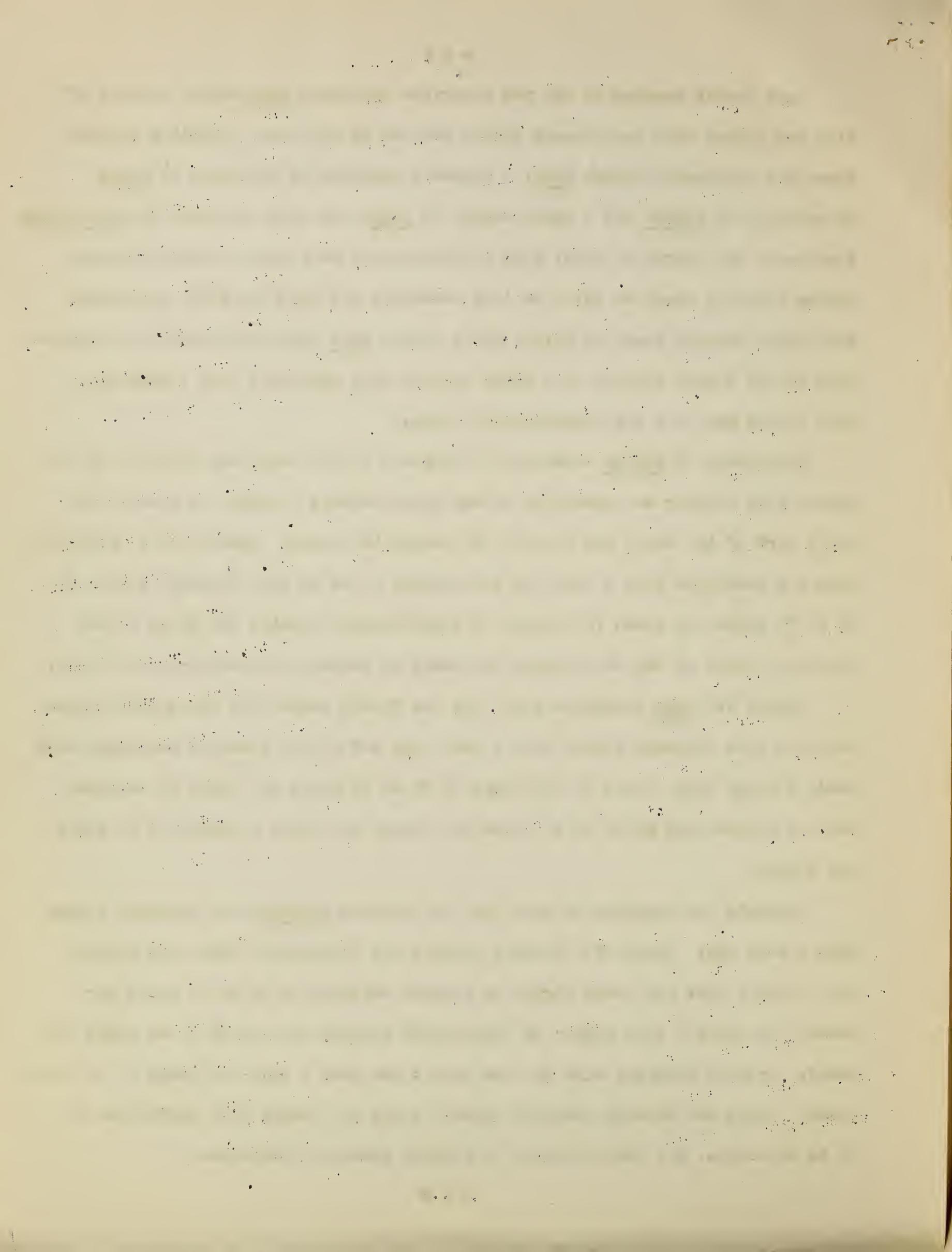


Last week's trading in the San Francisco wholesale meat market started off slow but showed some improvement toward the end of the week. Supplies varied. There was apparently enough beef; a seasonal increase in offerings of veal; practically no mutton and a scant supply of lamb; and ample supplies of fresh pork. Because of the dearth of lamb, veal and fresh pork cuts were in better demand. Prices advanced \$3.00 to \$4.00 on lamb carcasses and \$1.00 to \$2.00 on mutton. Pork loins dropped \$1.00 to \$2.00, while smoked hams were upped \$2.00 in anticipation of the Easter demand. All other classes held unchanged from a week ago. (All prices are on a per hundredweight basis.)

Production of butter continued to increase in the west, and supplies of all grades were heavier -- especially of top grade butter. Demand was good in the early part of the week, but leveled off toward the close. Quotations to retailers remained unchanged from a week ago with grades A and AA (1st quality) quoted at 68 to 70 cents per pound in cartons of quarter-pound prints, and grade B (2nd quality) quoted at  $66\frac{1}{2}$  to 68 cents per pound in cartons of quarter-pound prints.

Demand for eggs continued good, and was fairly active for top quality eggs. Supplies were slightly larger than a week ago, but prices remained unchanged with Grade A large eggs quoted to retailers at 51 to 52 cents per dozen in cartons, Grade A medium eggs at 48 to 49 cents per dozen, and Grade A smalls at 39 cents per dozen.

Receipts and supplies of both live and dressed poultry were slightly larger than a week ago. Demand for dressed poultry was moderately active and prices were about 1 cent per pound higher on roaster chickens at 46 to 47 cents per pound, and about 1 cent higher on lightweight leghorn hens at 43 to 44 cents per pound. Broiler chickens were in less demand and down 1 cent per pound at 41 to 43 cents. Young tom turkeys advanced about 2 cents per pound, with quotations at 60 to 62 cents. All other classes of poultry remained unchanged.



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### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 8, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5--- Best Buys in the San Francisco wholesale  
vegetable market this week are cauliflower, celery and onions.

Asparagus has continued to drop in price to become a Fairly Good Buy,  
along with carrots (higher) and spinach (higher).

Tagged as Fair Buys are artichokes (lower), eggplant, mushrooms, green  
peas (more plentiful and lower priced), potatoes (higher), rhubarb, and tomatoes  
(considering season).

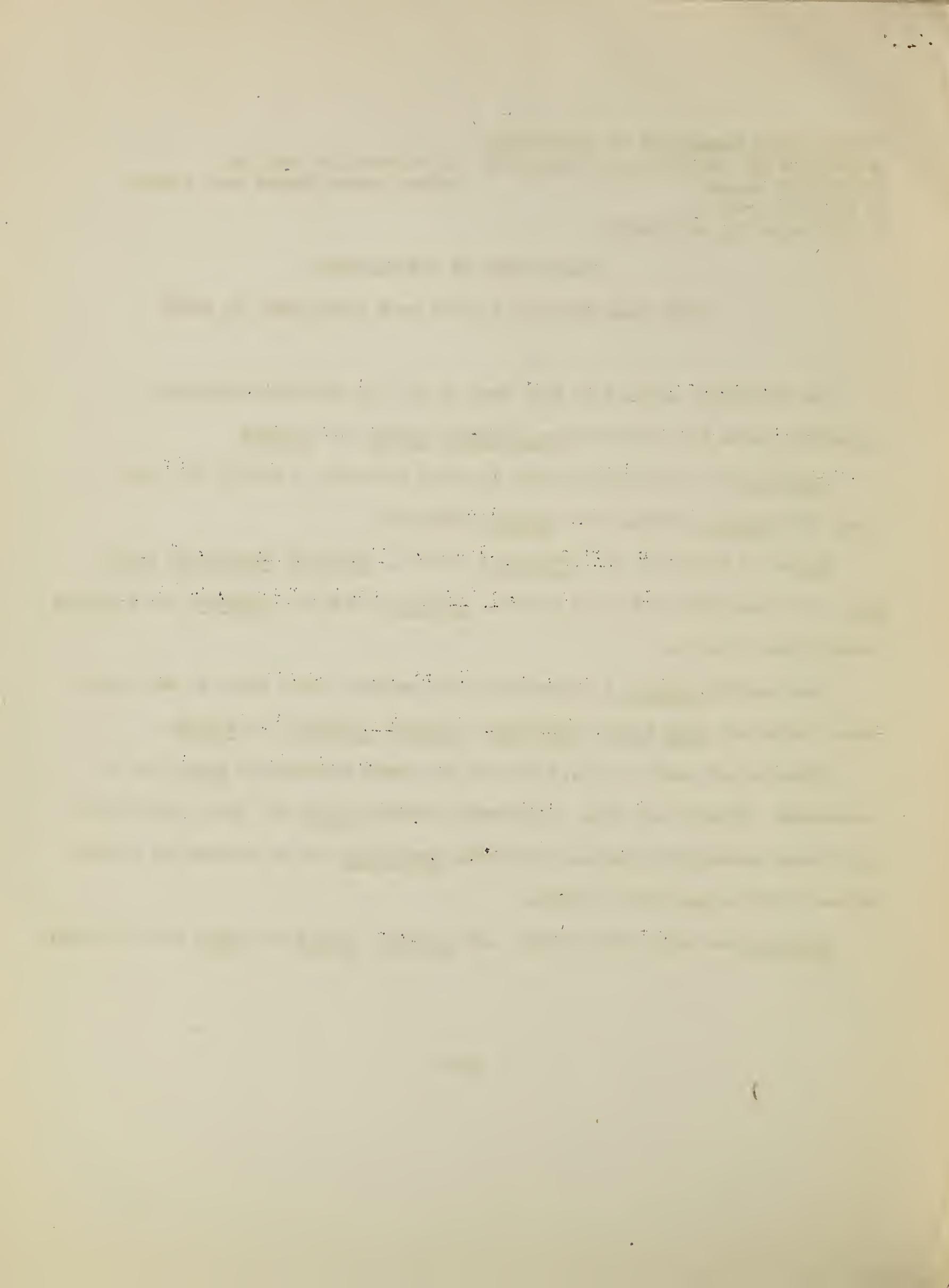
Good quality cabbage is scarce and high priced. Other items in the high-  
priced group are snap beans, cucumbers, peppers, lettuce, and squash.

There is not much to choose from in the fruit department. Limes can be  
considered a Fairly Good Buy. California Newtown apples are only a Fair Buy,  
with fewer good-quality apples available. Grapefruit may be classed as a Fair  
Buy -- depending upon the quality.

Avocados are higher this week. And oranges, lemons and pears are all high.

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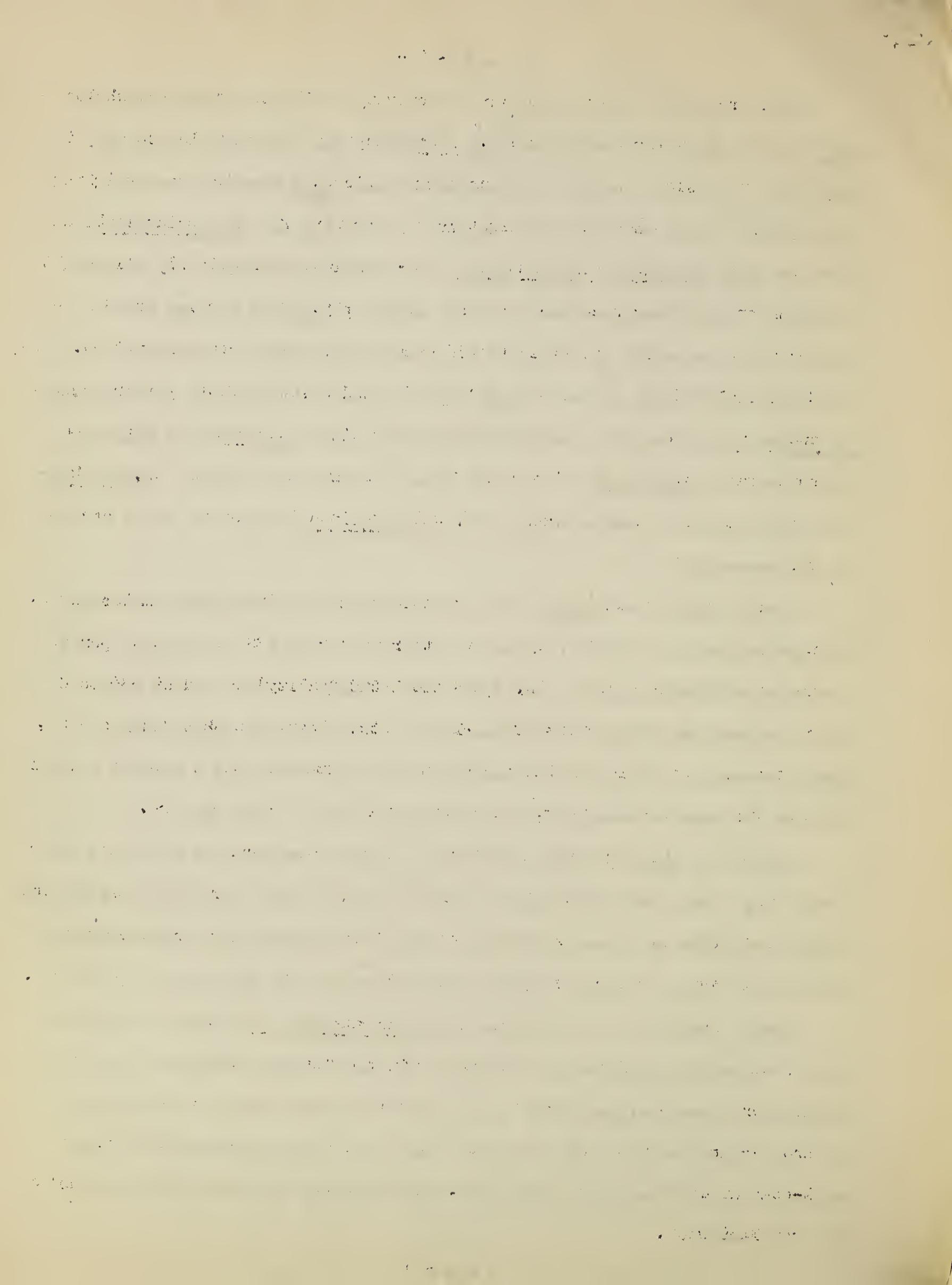


There has been a fair amount of activity in the San Francisco wholesale meat market during the past week. Beef slaughter was curtailed to keep in line with a slackened demand at unchanged prices. Beef carcasses weighing less than 600 pounds were in light supply, as were fed and spring lambs and 140-pound calf carcasses. Smoked meats -- including practically all weights of skinned ham and bacon -- were in ample supply. Veal was in more demand because of the scarcity of lamb (old crop lamb supply became exhausted). Good, Commercial and Utility grades of lamb advanced \$2.00 to \$4.00 per hundredweight; ewo mutton gained \$3.00 to \$4.00; and Commercial grade veal went up \$2.00 per hundredweight. Fresh pork was in fair demand at unchanged prices. Smoked hams were upped \$1.00 per hundredweight, while refined lard dropped 50 cents to \$1.00 per hundredweight.

Liberal supplies of butter have held unchanged in price from last week, with grades A&AA(1st Quality) quoted to retailers at 68 to 70 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints, and Grade B(2nd Quality) quoted at  $66\frac{1}{2}$  to 68 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. For the week ended March 31, butter production in the Pacific Coast and Mountain states was 8 percent larger than for the previous week, and 8 percent larger than a year ago.

Supplies of eggs are ample for demand at prices practically unchanged from a week ago. Large Grade "A" eggs are quoted 1-cent higher per dozen to retailers at 52 to 53 cents per dozen in cartons. Grade "A" Mediums have held unchanged at 48 to 49 cents per dozen, as have Grade "A" Smalls at 39 cents per dozen.

Liberal supplies of all classes of dressed poultry have been in moderate demand at practically unchanged prices in the San Francisco wholesale market. Broilers are 1-cent higher at 42 to 43 cents per pound; heavy colored fryers are 1-cent lower at 44 to 45 cents per pound; and colored roasters are down 1-cent at 45 to 46 cents per pound. All other classes are unchanged in price from last week.



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### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 15, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 12--- Again this week, Best Buys in the San Francisco wholesale fruit and vegetable market are cauliflower, celery and onions.

Asparagus is a Good Buy at lower prices, as are more plentiful supplies of peas.

Fair Buys include artichokes (lower), carrots, mushrooms, potatoes, rhubarb, spinach, and tomatoes.

In the fruit division, California Newtown apples and limes are a Fair Buy.

Good quality grapofruit has gone up in price. And avocados, lemons, oranges and pears are all high priced.

The first strawberries of the season have arrived from San Diego county. That's good news.

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Demand has improved in the San Francisco wholesale meat market this past week. Slaughter of beef, lamb and mutton was very light -- especially lamb -- but prices were little changed from the previous week. Hams were not in as much demand for Easter as had been anticipated, but No. 1 smoked picnic hams advanced \$2.00 per hundredweight. Fresh pork was in fair demand, with pork loins advancing \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight. Steer beef carcasses were in better demand and went up \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight. Beef rounds gained \$3.00 per hundredweight; chucks went up \$1.00; and ribs dropped \$2.00 per hundredweight. A fair supply of veal held unchanged in price.

Improved pasture conditions and warmer weather has stimulated butter production in the west to the extent that for the week ended April 7, western production was up 9 percent above the previous week. Demand has not kept pace. However, sales to retail outlets are still far above last year, despite some decline. Prices have sagged 2 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents, with grades A&A (1st Quality) quoted to retailers at 65-1/2 to 67-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints, and Grade B (2nd Quality) quoted at 65 to 66 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

An active pre-Easter demand has upped the price of eggs 1-cent per dozen on all sizes, even though receipts have been heavier. Grade "A" Large eggs are quoted to retailers at 53 to 54 cents per dozen, Mediums at 49 to 50 cents, and Grade "A" Smalls at 40 cents per dozen.

Plentiful supplies of dressed poultry are little changed in price from last week in the San Francisco wholesale market. Broilers are selling on a wider price range of 40 to 43 cents per pound, as are colored roasters at 43 to 46 cents per pound. All weights of colored fryers and Leghorn hens are down 1-cent per pound, with colored fryers at 43 to 44 cents per pound, and Leghorn hens at 42 to 44 cents per pound. All other classes are unchanged in price under a fairly active demand.



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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 22, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 19--- The week's Best Buys in the San Francisco wholesale fruit and vegetable market are artichokes, asparagus, celery (slightly higher), and onions.

Carrots are a Good Buy, along with more plentiful and lower-priced peas, spinach, and squash at considerably lower prices.

In the Fair Buy class are cauliflower, lettuce, mushrooms, potatoes, rhubarb, and tomatoes (considering season).

Beans are beginning to come in from the Coachella Valley, and some corn has arrived from Florida. Prices, of course, are high, but we can look for lower prices as supplies become more plentiful.

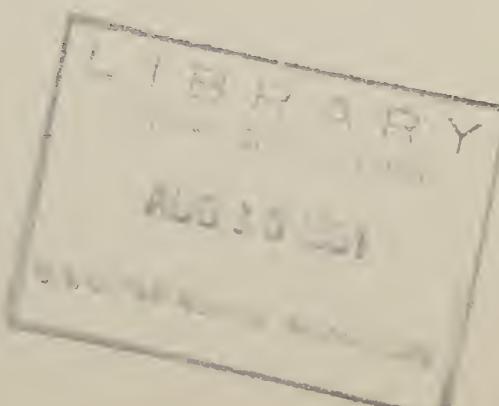
The fruit department has little to offer. Avocados are lower in price and can be classed as a Fair Buy, while limes are a Fairly Good Buy.

Grapefruit, lemons, oranges and pears are all high-priced. Apples continue to get lighter in supply.

Bananas are somewhat lower in price, but are still in the luxury class.

Strawberries are now coming in from southern California and the San Joaquin Valley.

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Features of the San Francisco wholesale meat market this past week have been an increased beef slaughter to take care of a fairly broad demand and a broader demand for lighter supplies of pork. Steer, heifer and cow beef all advanced \$1.00 per hundredweight, while pork carcasses and cuts held unchanged in price. Veal and calf held unchanged in price, but spring lamb was in less demand and dropped \$2.00 per hundredweight. There was also less demand for bacon and lard, with the result that prices dropped \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight on bacon and \$1.00 on tubs and cans of lard.

Supplies of butter have continued to become heavier as production has continued to increase. Demand has been somewhat limited, but prices are little changed. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) butter are quoted 1/2-cent higher to retailers at 66 to 68 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. Grade B(2nd Quality) is unchanged from last week at a quotation to retailers of 65 to 66 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

Plentiful supplies of eggs have held unchanged in price from last week. Grade "A" Large eggs are quoted to retailers at 53 to 54 cents per dozen, in cartons, Mediums at 49 to 50 cents per dozen, and Grade "A" Smalls at 40 cents per dozen. Demand has slackened up some from a week earlier, when there was an active pre-Easter demand.

Ample supplies of dressed poultry have held practically unchanged in price. Broilers are selling on a more narrow price range of 41 to 43 cents per pound, and 3 to 4-pound colored fryers are up 1-cent at 43 to 45 cents per pound. All other classes are unchanged from a week ago. Demand has continued good.

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## WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 29, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 26--- Heading the list of Best Buys in the San Francisco wholesale market this week are celery, onions, peas at lower prices, and squash at more reasonable prices.

Artichokes and asparagus are a Good Buy along with carrots, lettuce (lower priced), spinach, and tomatoes (lower).

Potatoes, peppers and rhubarb all rate as Fairly Good Buys this week.

There are some encouraging signs of spring supplies in the fruit department, but little to offer for this week. Avocados are down in price and can be classed as a Fair Buy.

Citrus fruits are all high-priced, while the season on apples and pears is practically over.

Strawberries continue to get heavier in supply and prices are quite a bit lower than last week. So, they should be at least a Fair Buy soon.

Cantaloups are coming in from Mexico-- at a high price, of course. But it is an indication that the cantaloup season is near at hand.

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The demand for meat in the San Francisco wholesale market has slumped since Easter, with the result that during the past week, demand has not been active enough to move the slaughter of spring lambs, veal and calf, and pork cuts. Prices have held practically unchanged on beef and veal but have dropped \$4.00 to \$6.00 per hundredweight on spring lambs, \$2.00 on mutton, and \$1.00 to \$2.00 on pork carcasses and cuts. Smoked meats have been in very little demand. Hams have held unchanged in price, while the price on bacon has sagged \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight.

The San Francisco wholesale butter market has changed little from a week ago. Demand has lagged some for the liberal supplies. But prices are practically the same. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) butter are quoted 1/2-cent lower to retailers at  $65\frac{1}{2}$  to  $67\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. Grade B(2nd Quality) butter has held unchanged at 65 to 66 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

Egg prices are 1-cent higher than a week ago. Grade "A" Large eggs are quoted to retailers at 54 to 55 cents per dozen, Mediums at 50 to 51 cents, and Grade "A" Smalls at 41 cents per dozen. Local production has increased only a very small percent, which indicates that the peak of production may be near at hand. Demand has continued good.

The demand for dressed poultry has tapered off some since Easter. Colored hens are in more plentiful supply and 2 to 3 cents per pound lower at 48 to 50 cents per pound. Larger supplies of rabbits have resulted in a price drop of 2 to 3 cents to a quotation of 60 to 63 cents per pound. All other classes are unchanged in price from a week ago.

